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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****22 MARCH 2018**

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Fairfield – Driver Goes Through Travis Air Force Base’s Main Gate, Crashes, Dies

(U) An unauthorized driver went through the main gate of Travis Air Force Base last night at approximately 6:55 p.m., forcing officials to close the entrance. The driver then crashed and died at the scene. Fairfield police, Travis medical personnel, the explosives disposal unit, Special Forces, and the Office of Special Investigations responded to the scene. Parts of the base were blocked off after the crash but the base was not locked down, according to Travis officials.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

#### (U) San Diego –Sinaloa Drug Cartel Senior Leader’s Son Gets 5 ½ Year Prison Sentence

(U) Serafin Zambada Ortiz, son of Ismael “El Mayo” Zambada Garcia, a high ranking senior leader within the Sinaloa drug cartel, was sentenced to 5½ years in prison yesterday. The sentencing, in San Diego federal court, comes more than three years after Serafin Zambada Ortiz, 27 and a US citizen, pleaded guilty to a conspiracy to import more than 100 kilograms of cocaine and more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana into the United States from Mexico, according to the plea agreement. He also agreed to forfeit \$250,000 in drug proceeds, an amount that has been paid.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

#### (U) San Francisco – Multiple Injuries including Police, Civilians, and Suspect in Shootout

(U) A police officer and five civilians – including a suspect – were wounded during an exchange of gunfire in San Francisco on Wednesday afternoon. The gunfire broke out about 4:40 p.m. at the Amazon Barber Shop, sending people ducking for cover. The police officer was struck in the leg by a bullet and is in fair condition, two of the others wounded were in critical condition and three were in stable condition, according to police. One of the five civilians hit was a suspect in the shootout and was arrested. He was in critical condition.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [The San Francisco Chronicle](#)

### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

#### (U) Mexico – Gulf Cartel Leader, Luis Alberto Blanco Flores, Arrested

(U) Querétaro – On March 20, Federal Police in coordination with local Querétaro authorities, arrested Luis Alberto Blanco Flores, better known as “El Pelochas” or “El M28.” He the leader of the Gulf Cartel in Reynosa, Tamaulipas and is one of the main generators of violence and insecurity in northern Tamaulipas.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [The Baja Post](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Michigan – Canadian Man Faces Extra Charge in Michigan Airport Stabbing

(U) Flint – A US grand jury has indicted a Canadian man accused of stabbing a police officer at a Michigan airport last year on an additional terrorism charge stemming from the attack, federal prosecutors said

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yesterday, in US District Court. Amor Ftouhi, 50, is accused of “committing an act of terrorism transcending national boundaries” by traveling from Canada to the United States in an attempt to kill government officials. The new charge carries a potential life sentence if convicted, according to the indictment.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) New York – Airline Employee Busted for Cocaine Smuggling at JFK Airport**

(U) New York City – Hugh Hall, an airline crew member allegedly tried to smuggle nine pounds of cocaine through JFK Airport last week. Officials say Hugh Hall, an employee of Fly Jamaica Airways and a Jamaican citizen, arrived at JFK Airport on 17 March, on a flight from Montego Bay, Jamaica. When Hall went through a security inspection in a private search room, customs officers discovered four packages that contained a white powder taped to his legs, which later tested positive for cocaine. Hall now faces federal narcotics smuggling charges.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [ABC7](#)

**(U) South Carolina – Grand Jury Indicts 15 Members of National Drug Trafficking Gang**

(U) Columbia – Attorney General Alan Wilson and Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott say they’ve brought down a gang known as the “Paid Family.” The indictment claims that from May 2014 through March 2017 the 15 defendants, including two active-duty service members – all alleged members of the gang, possessed, sold, manufactured, delivered, purchased, conspired, or brought into the state 100 pounds or more of marijuana. The alleged main source of the marijuana was Cedrick Montrell Ward, an active duty military serviceman stationed at Ft. Lewis in Washington State.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [The State](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Suicide Bomber Kills Dozens as Afghans Celebrate the Persian New Year**

(U) Kabul – An Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) suicide bomber struck on the road, yesterday, near a Shiite shrine in Afghanistan’s capital, Kabul, killing dozens as Afghans who were celebrating the Persian new year. At least 29 people were killed and another 52 were wounded in the attack, which was carried out by a bomber on foot, according to the public health ministry. ISIS claimed the attack in an online statement, according to the Site Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadist websites.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Ecuador – Officials Attribute Ecuador Attack to Dissident FARC Rebels**

(U) Quito – Ecuadorean authorities say a guerrilla faction that was once linked to Colombia’s largest rebel group is responsible for an attack that left three soldiers dead. Governor Pablo Hadathy Rodas of the northwestern Esmeraldas province where the 20 March attack took place told a Colombian radio station that the rebels are now involved in drug trafficking and were behind a recent spate of violence along the border.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Nigeria – Foreign Aid Workers Targeted and Killed by Boko Haram**

(U) Abuja – Members of the Boko Haram terrorist group, an affiliate of ISIS, attacked a military base on 1 March and executed eight security personnel and three aid staff working for the United Nations, according to security sources. It was the first publicly-acknowledged killing of aid staff by Boko Haram terrorists. Given the precarious situation in the region bordering Cameroon, Chad and Niger, the aid

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workers in many areas use military escorts and stay on or by bases.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Nigeria – Most Nigerian Schoolgirls Kidnapped by Boko Haram Set Free**

Maiduguri – Nigeria's government reports 104 of the 110 schoolgirls abducted a month ago by Boko Haram are confirmed freed. One 14-year-old released by the fighters has told reporters that five of the girls had died. She did not provide other details and it was not immediately possible to independently verify her claim. Another of the freed girls has said a Christian classmate remained captive. Nigeria's information minister denies any ransom paid or prisoners swapped in return for the release of the girls, who were returned yesterday morning with a warning to residents: "Don't ever put your daughters in school again." The government says the girls are being taken to the capital, Abuja, aboard a military plane.

SOURCE: 21 March 2018, [The Washington Post](#)

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